BRITISH COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT

ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT
2002-2003

RESTORING HOPE & PROSPERITY

DOC
BC
ZE
B:A7
2002/03
c.3

BRITISH COLUMBIA

National Library of Canada Cataloguing in Publication Data
British Columbia.
Annual strategic plan report. - 2002/03-

Annual.
"Restoring hope & prosperity."
Continues: British Columbia. Annual report.
ISSN 1703-3078.

ISSN 1708-0282 = Annual strategic plan report – British Columbia. Premier.

1. British Columbia. Politics and government – 2001 – Periodicals. I. Title. II. British Columbia Government ... Annual strategic plan report.

JL432.B74 351.711'05 C2003-960139-0

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NOTE FROM THE PREMIER

It is my privilege to present the second Annual Report of the Government of British Columbia. Last year we published the first British Columbia Government Strategic Plan 2002/03 - 2004/05. It outlined our policy priorities and the actions we will undertake. This Annual Report sets out our progress in achieving those goals.

Annual reports are an important means of ensuring progress and accountability for honouring our commitments. They not only demonstrate where progress is being made, but also identify areas where improvement is needed. As this report shows, much has been achieved in the past 12 months. To revitalize our economy, we have implemented 27 tax relief measures, providing a total of over $900 million in net tax relief to individuals, and $350 million in net tax relief to business. We have removed over 50,000 regulatory requirements, eliminated the backlog in Crown land applications and streamlined land use approvals.

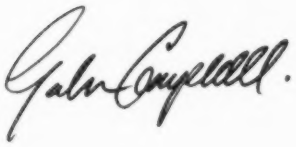
As a result of these and other actions, British Columbia created 78,000 new jobs in 2002. We led the country in growth in average weekly wages. We led the country in growth in wholesale sales. Mineral exploration was up by 25%, housing starts increased by 25%, and our provincial economy grew by three times the original forecast.

To restore sound fiscal management, we have implemented a rigorous new budget planning process, including three-year Ministry service plans and new accountability measures. As a result, for the first time in over 50 years, every Ministry was on or under budget in 2002/03, and British Columbia is on track to balance the budget in 2004/05.

To patients and students first, we have made substantial investments in health and education, and comprehensive reforms to ensure every dollar is spent where it's needed. We have added $1.4 billion in health spending. We are increasing training spaces for doctors, nurses and health professionals. We have added resources for schools, and over the next three years will increase annual education funding by $143 million.

All of these measures are resulting in significant improvements to our economy, our public services and British Columbians' quality of life. At the same time, it's important to note that the plan we are following will take time to fully implement. This report lays out 25 specific measures that provide a summary of our strategic goals, and our province's long-term progress toward meeting each. In some cases, the most recent data available is for time periods prior to 2002/03, and does not reflect changes made in the past 12 months.

We will continue implementing our plan in the year ahead, and honouring our commitments to revitalize the economy, open up new jobs and investment, and renew our public services. We will continue to build on the progress made so far, and work with British Columbians to achieve continued improvements. The result will be new economic opportunities, renewed services, and a bright future for all of us.



Gordon Campbell,
Premier

INTRODUCTION

This is the second Annual Report of the Government of British Columbia and the first report covering a full fiscal year under the British Columbia Liberal government. With this second report, the government is seeking a transformation of the relationship between British Columbians and their government. This Annual Report is part of a process in which the government will become increasingly accountable to its citizens by focussing on results for all of its activities. Of course, as always, the challenge is to meet our operational and development goals while keeping our financial position sound and stable.

Our key policy priorities recognize that good economic management is not an end in itself, but is a mechanism to allow British Columbia's families to prosper. This Annual Report identifies areas where British Columbia is performing well. For example, British Columbians are amongst the healthiest and most highly educated in Canada. The document also identifies opportunities for improvement, as well as actions the Government is taking to address those issues.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING

The Government of British Columbia is dedicated to ensuring that the services it provides to British Columbians are well managed, and are consistent with its priorities. A critical part of government accountability is the requirement to publish regular, informative reports.

The *Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act* requires that each ministry prepare a three-year service plan outlining its priority initiatives, performance targets and performance measures. Provisions of this Act also require government and Ministers to table annual reports by August 31 each year that compare actual results against the Government's Three Year Strategic Plan and Ministry Three Year Service Plans. This second Annual Report compares the government's performance against the performance measures and strategic actions outlined in the British Columbia Government 2002/03 - 2004/05 Strategic Plan. In order to ensure that British Columbians can confirm the results of our performance, we have used several reliable sources to obtain data for these measures: Statistics Canada, B.C. Stats, Ministries, and the B.C. Progress Board.

This report is a prototype that will be developed and refined in future years. The Government of British Columbia's 2003/04 - 2005/06 Strategic Plan has been strengthened significantly from the initial Strategic Plan that we are reporting on in this Annual Report. We have made a conscious effort to ensure the Government's Annual Report is a user-friendly document that meets the needs of our citizens and fulfills this government's commitment to transparency and accountability. Evaluation in this report is undertaken on a "whole of government" basis, although individual Ministries are responsible for reporting on specific outputs of the Ministry. The Government's Annual Report is the umbrella for individual Ministry reports, which are being published in tandem with this document.

TIMELINESS OF MEASURES

Measuring progress can be challenging for a variety of reasons. First, current data is not always available in each performance category. For some of the 25 performance measures in this report, the most recent data available is for time periods prior to the 2002/03 fiscal year, and does not reflect progress made in the past 12 months.

Second, some goals may take several years to accomplish, while others may be affected by national and global events. Nevertheless, it is important to set benchmarks for future progress. On balance, government is making significant progress in achieving its goals and objectives.

SELECTION OF MEASURES

The performance measures reported on in this report fall into three categories:

OUTPUT/WORKLOAD INDICATORS

These indicators report units produced or services provided by a program. Workload measures indicate the amount of work performed or the amount of services received. An example of an output measure is the proportion of small claims cases settled through out of court mediation in the Small Claims Mediation Program.

OUTCOME/EFFECTIVENESS INDICATORS

These measures are designed to report the results (including quality) of the service. Effectiveness measurement is a method for examining how well a government is meeting the public purpose it is intended to fulfill. In other words, effectiveness refers to the degree to which services are contributing to the needs and desires of a community. It encompasses both quantity and quality aspects of a service. An example of an outcome indicator is improving the health of a particular population.

EFFICIENCY/COST-EFFECTIVENESS INDICATORS

Efficiency measurement is a method for examining the ratio of the quantity of the service provided to the cost required to produce the service. An example of an efficiency indicator is the value of goods and services per hour worked.

PROGRESS REPORT ON GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGIC ACTIONS

The assessment of progress for 2002/03 against the actions set out in the Government's Strategic Plan 2002/03 - 2004/05 covers three main categories. These are:

- Action achieved
- Action on track for achievement
- Action commenced

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE 2002/03 STRATEGIC PLAN

VISION

British Columbia is a prosperous and just province, whose citizens achieve their potential and have confidence in the future.

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY: to make decisions in a manner that is consistent, professional, fair and balanced

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY: to implement affordable public policies

ACCOUNTABILITY: to enhance efficiency, effectiveness and credibility of government

RESPECT: to treat all citizens equitably, compassionately and respectfully

CHOICE: afford citizens the opportunity to exercise self-determination

In keeping with government's vision and values, three strategic goals have been identified. These goals are:

VISION

British Columbia is a prosperous and just province, whose citizens achieve their potential and have confidence in the future.

This Report is structured around these three goals. It outlines the government's major public policy commitments and reports on the progress made toward achieving these objectives in 2002/03 through the implementation of a wide range of policies and legislation undertaken throughout government. There is a great deal of interrelationship between the goals, objectives and performance measures under each section of this Report. For example, a strong economy supports the government's ability to deliver social services, and environmental sustainability supports the good health of our citizens.

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A STRONG AND VIBRANT PROVINCIAL ECONOMY

British Columbia has a long history of prosperity and leadership. However, the 1990's were a decade of decline for the province, where British Columbia fell far short of being the leading economic performer in Canada. Over the past year we began to put in place the levers essential to begin economic recovery in British Columbia. We will continue to work to regain our position of strength, and within the next decade return this province to an unparalleled economic success story. When we survey the economic landscape in the years to come, British Columbians will have much to be proud of, and much to look forward to. Our citizens will have confidence in the provincial economy, its social fabric and in themselves to achieve their full potential.

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

A. BRITISH COLUMBIA WILL HAVE A SKILLED WORKFORCE

MEASURE

PERCENTAGE OF THE LABOUR FORCE WITH A POST-SECONDARY CERTIFICATE OR DIPLOMA

DESCRIPTION:

This indicator measures the proportion of the British Columbia labour force (all ages) whose highest level of educational attainment is completion of a post-secondary certificate or diploma program, whether in British Columbia or other jurisdictions.

IMPORTANCE:

This measure reflects British Columbia's ability to develop and maintain a strong and vibrant economy because post-secondary education provides the labour force with the knowledge and skills necessary to develop and maintain a competitive edge in the global economy, and to help attract investment which creates jobs that require skilled workers.

TARGET

Increase percentage from 2001 baseline of 32.4%

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
31.5%	2002

MEASURE

PERCENTAGE OF THE WORKFORCE COMPRISING PERSONS EMPLOYED IN NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCE RELATED OCCUPATIONS

DESCRIPTION:

The percent of employed persons in British Columbia who are working in professional and technical occupations in the sciences, including physical and life sciences, engineering and architecture.

IMPORTANCE:

This indicator reflects the degree to which British Columbia is able to employ, attract and keep people with the knowledge and skills necessary for innovation. A certain critical mass of these knowledge workers is necessary to support research and development within centres of excellence, and will affect business location decisions of companies moving from research and development into production.

TARGET

Increase percentage from 2000 baseline of 6.3%

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
6.1%	2001
5.9%	2002

A highly skilled workforce is necessary to ensure British Columbia is economically competitive with other jurisdictions. The level of attainment of qualifications from university and vocational education and training equates to a more skilled and productive workforce for employers, the prospect of high earnings and better jobs for graduates. British Columbia's skilled workforce measures declined slightly over the 2002/03 fiscal year. However, both these measures under objective (A) are long-term targets and will be impacted by a variety of factors, not all of which are directly related to government policy or service delivery. For example, the percentage of the labour force with a post-secondary certificate or diploma measure includes the number of new certificate and diploma graduates produced both in British Columbia and elsewhere. Our performance will be impacted by such factors as the total number of persons in the labour force with certificate and diplomas gained or lost through interprovincial and international migration, the growth of the overall labour force, and the age composition and differential growth of the labour force between the various categories of educational attainment.

In 2002/03, the number of youths participating in the labour force accounted for a larger than average proportion of British Columbia's labour force growth, which meant little change in the total number of persons in the labour force with a post-secondary certificate or diploma. In addition, labour market conditions in British Columbia resulted in renewed growth as workers with secondary school education or less re-entered the labour force in 2002. These changes attributed to an overall decrease in the measure to 31.5 per cent.

It is interesting to note that British Columbia is not the only province that experienced a decline in this measure over the previous year. Saskatchewan, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia also saw a fall in this measure. The measure has been broadened in the 2003/04 Strategic Plan to consider the percentage of the labour force with a post-secondary diploma, certificate or degree, which is a more comprehensive measure of a skilled workforce. The target has been revised in order to reflect the long-term nature of this measure. The government is continuing to support efforts to achieve its long-term goals.

The percentage of the workforce employed in natural and applied science related occupations was also impacted by the stronger labour market in 2002. There was significant growth in the total number of workers employed in British Columbia, while the number of workers employed in the natural and applied science occupations remain unchanged. As a result, the percentage of the workforce in this occupational group decreased. In comparison, other occupational groups such as professional and technical health workers, contractors and skilled construction trades workers, university professors/researchers and teachers all saw increases in their numbers of employed workers over 2002/03, and realized an increased share in the workforce in 2002/03 from 2001/02.

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

B. BRITISH COLUMBIANS WILL HAVE A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

MEASURE

REAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT PER CAPITA (GDP)

DESCRIPTION:

Economic growth (i.e., the change of real GDP per capita) is a key measure of economic prosperity, expressed in terms of output (goods and services produced) per person. GDP is the value added to the economy by current productive activities of individuals, businesses, governments and non-residents.

IMPORTANCE:

The growth rate of the real GDP per capita is an effective measure of changes in the prosperity of a jurisdiction and its population. Slower growth in real GDP per capita results in lower levels of purchasing power, real personal income, and real wages and salaries.

TARGET

Increase real GDP per person from 2000 baseline of $30,664[1]

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
$30,587	2000
$30,211	2001
$30,459	2002

MEASURE

PRODUCTIVE REAL GDP PER HOUR WORKED IN THE BUSINESS SECTOR

DESCRIPTION:

This measure indicates the overall efficiency of our labour efforts. The best measure of productivity is real GDP per hour worked in the business sector. Thus, for every hour of labour in British Columbia, workers produce a given amount of GDP.

IMPORTANCE:

Growth in productivity is essential to improving income levels, public services and the standard of living. If productivity fails to increase, a jurisdiction's living standards will eventually decline.

TARGET

Increase from the 2000 baseline of $30.72 / hour[1]

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
$30.67/hour	2000
$31.74/hour	2001
$32.39/hour	2002

[1]The latest results for 2000 differ from the baseline target due to subsequent revisions by Statistics Canada or, in the case of accounting information, for subsequent updates or accounting restatements.

B. BRITISH COLUMBIANS WILL HAVE A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

MEASURE

TOTAL AMOUNT OF GROSS FIXED BUSINESS INVESTMENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF REAL GDP

DESCRIPTION:

This measure reflects expenditure by business on machinery and equipment as well as building, engineering and residential housing construction.

IMPORTANCE:

Business investment is an important contributing factor to long-term economic growth and higher productivity. Growth in investment results in stronger, more competitive industries, which in turn bring income growth and wealth creation.

TARGET

Improve upon British Columbia's gross fixed business investment from the 2000 baseline of 17.2% of provincial GDP[1]

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
16.8%	2000
17.7%	2001
17.0%	2002

[1]The latest results for 2000 differ from the baseline target due to subsequent revisions by Statistics Canada or, in the case of accounting information, for subsequent updates or accounting restatements.

The government is committed to building a strong and vibrant provincial economy characterized by increasing prosperity and a higher standard of living for British Columbians. Growth in GDP is a direct indicator of the strength of British Columbia's economy. British Columbia's real GDP per capita was the fourth highest in Canada in 2002. However, the level of real GDP per capita was lower in 2002 than in 2000. The British Columbia economy contracted in 2001 as a result of a global slowdown, declining by 0.2 per cent. As a result, real GDP declined $376 per person from 2000 to 2001. Total GDP in British Columbia grew 1.8 per cent in 2002, but the per person increase of $248 was not enough to recover lost ground in 2001.

Improvements in labour productivity, measured by real GDP per hour worked, helps to ensure British Columbia's international competitiveness continues to improve and the province's economy continues to grow. Labour productivity in British Columbia increased by almost a dollar an hour in 2001 over the 2000 baseline. In 2002, real GDP per hour worked in the business sector rose to $32.39, the fourth highest in Canada. This target has been met for 2002 and shows that British Columbia's labour force is producing more for every hour worked.

British Columbia ranked sixth among provinces in terms of total business investment as a per cent of real GDP in 2002. Business investment as a percentage of GDP remained above the 2000 benchmark despite falling to 17.0 per cent from 17.7 per cent in 2001. Although residential construction's share of GDP increased, the larger decline in non-residential construction and machinery and equipment investment caused the total business investment to GDP share to decline.

The benefits of a robust and growing economy flow to the citizens of British Columbia through the creation of secure and sustainable jobs and an improvement in the social and economic well-being of British Columbians. The new Heartlands Economic Strategy builds on the government's overall economic plan. It will focus on opening up opportunities in British Columbia's regions through new partnerships with First Nations, new investments in transportation infrastructure and taking full advantage of the province's resource base. In addition, the province will maintain a competitive tax regime, further improving the province's ability to attract and retain investment.

C. BRITISH COLUMBIANS WILL HAVE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MEASURE

PERCENTAGE OF EMPLOYED PERSONS IN THE 15 TO 64 AGE COHORT

DESCRIPTION:

The number of employed who are age 15 to 64 as a percentage of the population 15-64 years old. This measure includes those who are considered "working age".

IMPORTANCE:

The employment rate is one means of gauging the extent to which available labour is being deployed. In a growing economy, as employers increase production there will be demands for more workers, and the employment rate will increase. This measure also reflects the degree to which those of working age are active participants in the economy. A vibrant economy requires a pool of qualified and available workers. Economic growth and increases in production can create incentives for people to return to the labour market if they have withdrawn, thereby increasing the employment rate.

TARGET

Improve the ratio from the 2000 baseline of 70.2%

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
69.1%	2001
69.1%	2002

MEASURE

REAL PERSONAL DISPOSABLE INCOME PER CAPITA.

DESCRIPTION:

Real disposable income per capita represents total income minus certain taxes and various fees paid to all levels of government, and expressed on a per person basis. It includes income earned by all residents of the province, regardless of where it was earned.

IMPORTANCE:

Real personal disposable income per capita provides an accurate indication of individuals' spending power and standard of living.

TARGET

Growth from 2000 baseline of $19,029 per person[1]

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
$19,283	2000
$19,486	2001
$19,455	2002

[1]The latest results for 2000 differ from the baseline target due to subsequent revisions by Statistics Canada or, in the case of accounting information, for subsequent updates or accounting restatements.

Employment is the primary source of income for the vast majority of British Columbians and is an important means for people to participate in community life. Employment is also essential for a productive and robust economy. The amount of employment has wide social and economic benefits to the community, such as achieving greater participation in the social and economic life of the province, and building a stronger economy.

The percentage of the working population aged 15 to 64 has decreased slightly from its baseline of 70.2 per cent in 2000 to 69.1 per cent in 2002. Between 2000 and 2002, British Columbia experienced a slow down in the economy, which impacted the number of persons employed in the province. Employment growth did not begin to show substantial recovery until 2002. During this time period, British Columbia experienced population growth, which outpaced its growth in employment, resulting in a dip in the employment rate.

Another important indicator for employed British Columbians is real personal disposable income. In 2002, real personal disposable income per capita in British Columbia surpassed its 2000 level. The drop in real personal disposable income per capita from 2001 results from the 2.3 per cent rise in prices for consumer goods and services, which was more than the 2.1 per cent rise in personal disposable income per capita before adjusting for inflation. After adjusting for price increases, real personal disposable income per capita fell by 0.2 per cent in 2002. The government will continue to maintain public policies that enhance employment opportunities for British Columbians. Provincial personal income tax rates have been reduced an average of 25 per cent and the province has the lowest income tax rates in the country for the bottom two tax brackets. In addition, changes to the *Employment Standards Act* will benefit both workers and employers by increasing flexibility in the workplace as well as helping to revitalize the economy by recognizing the needs and realities of modern workplaces.

D. GOVERNMENT WILL BE AFFORDABLE & FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE

MEASURE

BALANCE THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET

DESCRIPTION:

A balanced budget means that government spending does not exceed annual revenues. Under the *Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act*, government is required by law to balance the budget every year beginning in 2004/05.

IMPORTANCE:

Knowing that government finances are prudently managed is important to all British Columbians, as well as businesses located in the province. A balanced budget means that government debt will be held in check.

TARGET

Balanced beginning in 2004/05

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
Ahead of target	2002/03

MEASURE

TAXPAYER SUPPORTED DEBT IN RELATION TO SIZE OF GDP

DESCRIPTION:

This indicator measures the net public debt burden as a proportion of GDP. Taxpayer supported debt includes government indirect debt, and the debt of Crown corporations and agencies that require a subsidy from the provincial government.

IMPORTANCE:

Payments to service taxpayer supported debt can consume a large portion of a jurisdiction's budget, thereby diminishing it's capacity to provide public services. The debt burden is also an important indication of a jurisdiction's attractiveness for business investment.

TARGET

Annually reduce debt burden beginning in 2004/05

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
Ahead of target	2002/03

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

D. GOVERNMENT WILL BE AFFORDABLE & FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE

MEASURE

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP

DESCRIPTION:

This indicator measures government expenditure as a proportion of GDP.

IMPORTANCE:

Research indicates that the relative size of a country's government sector may negatively affect competitiveness and increases in the size of government beyond the optimal point may produce little in terms of social programs.

TARGET

Reduce the level from the 2001/02 forecast of 19.4% of GDP

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
19.0%	2001/02
18.8%	2002/03

The government of British Columbia is committed to responsible fiscal management. As a measure of government's commitment to strong fiscal management, *The Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act* was enacted. This Act applies salary penalties to Ministers who overspend their annual budgets.

The government's fiscal plan to balance the budget beginning in 2004/05 remains on track. For the 2002/03 fiscal year, the deficit was $3.169 billion, $1.231 billion ahead of the budgeted deficit of $4.4 billion. While final results for 2003/04 will not be available for another year, government has updated its fiscal plan for 2004/05 and extended it to 2005/06. Based on current economic and revenue forecasts, and including a prudent forecast allowance for unexpected negative developments, the updated plan forecasts a $2.3 billion deficit in 2003/04, followed by surpluses of $50 million and $357 million for 2004/05 and 2005/06.

Taxpayer-supported debt was 21.6 per cent of GDP in 2002/03, lower than the forecast of 24.3 per cent in Budget 2002. The fiscal plan tabled in Budget 2003 forecasts the taxpayer-supported debt to GDP ratio to rise to 23.0 per cent in 2003/04 before declining to 22.1 per cent and 21.1 per cent in 2004/05 and 2005/06 respectively. In addition, the government has reduced the level of provincial government expenditure as a percentage of GDP. Building a stronger economy and responsible expenditure management both work to reduce the expenditure to GDP ratio.

The updated fiscal plan presented in Budget 2003 reflects the government's continuing commitment to balance the budget in 2004/05 while protecting health care and education. The government remains on track to balance the budget by 2004/05.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

INNOVATION & ECONOMIC GROWTH

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
ESTABLISH LEADERSHIP CHAIRS	Advanced Education	ON TRACK: The provincial government has fully funded this $45 million commitment. One Chair has been appointed to date. An independent society is responsible for awarding the remaining 19 Chairs by March 2006.
ESTABLISH ONE STOP SHOPPING FOR PERMITTING/LICENSING	All Ministries	ON TRACK: Various ministries have worked together to establish one stop shopping for permitting and licensing. Key achievements include the establishment of one stop business information provided by the Oil and Gas Commission and new corporate guidelines have been put into place for consulting with First Nations. Refer to Ministry Service Plans for further information and examples.
REDUCE GOVERNMENT RED TAPE	Competition, Science & Enterprise; All Ministries	ON TRACK: The government exceeded its regulatory reduction target of 12 per cent for 2002/03 - the actual net reduction was 13.1 per cent. The single business number project is reducing overlap and duplication among governments.
DEVELOP A COORDINATED MARKETING APPROACH FOR THE PROVINCE	Competition, Science & Enterprise	ON TRACK: Following initial planning consideration, there has been a shift to country-specific marketing strategies. An international investment marketing strategy focusing on strategic markets and sectors is being developed. Funding has been committed to regional tourism groups and forest products and practices promotion activities are underway.

INNOVATION & ECONOMIC GROWTH

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
WORK WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO REMOVE BARRIERS TO BUSINESS	Competition, Science & Enterprise	ON TRACK: Many specific initiatives that contribute to this objective have been achieved, including improvements to the regulatory, tax, trade, labour and investment climate. As well, major new funding for road rehabilitation and other transportation upgrades was allocated.
ELIMINATE BUSINESS SUBSIDIES	Competition, Science & Enterprise	ACHIEVED: All subsidies to business (23 programs) have been eliminated. Proposed new initiatives have been reviewed to ensure this commitment is upheld.
SUPPORT A CULTURE OF INNOVATION THAT TRANSFERS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FROM THE RESEARCH STAGE THROUGH TO DEVELOPMENT AND THE COMMERCIAL MARKETPLACE	Competition, Science & Enterprise; All Ministries	ON TRACK: Many initiatives contribute to this objective. The Premier's Technology Council has released three detailed reports. The *Leading Edge Endowment Fund* is establishing research chairs, now supplemented by regional innovation chairs. The *Life Sciences Initiative* and other actions have worked to secure federal innovation funding for provincial priorities and upgrading research facilities.
IMPLEMENT POLICIES TO ENSURE PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT	Competition, Science & Enterprise; All Ministries	ON TRACK: In addition to the new energy policy and major reforms in forestry, the government has worked to provide greater certainty for investors by fast-tracking interim measures and treaty talks with First Nations. Increasing access to Crown land, water and resources and reducing backlogs are encouraging increased private sector activity. The Energy Plan focuses on the private sector for new electricity generation and for major investment in oil and gas.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

INNOVATION & ECONOMIC GROWTH

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A LONG-TERM PLAN OF ECONOMIC RENEWAL	Competition, Science & Enterprise; All Ministries	ON TRACK: This is a long-term strategic action across government. Major initiatives in 2002/03 included legislative reforms to streamline regulations in oil and gas, mining and forestry, implementation of a new Crown land application approval process, the launch of a $10 million-a-year Economic Measures Fund for First Nations' economic development, and the development of 10 additional tax relief measures announced in Budget 2003. In addition, the government announced the development of a new Heartlands Economic Strategy
MAINTAIN A COMPETITIVE TAX REGIME	Finance	ON TRACK: This strategic action is ongoing. In 2002 British Columbia had the lowest personal income tax rates for the bottom two tax brackets and the second lowest top marginal personal income tax rate in Canada. The province eliminated the corporate capital tax and reduced a number of other business taxes.
DEVELOP A PROGRAM FOR REFORMING LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA	Skills Development & Labour	ON TRACK: Changes to the Labour Relations Code were passed in the legislature in 2002 with subsequent restructuring of the Labour Relations Board. A Committee of Special Advisors was established under Section 3 of the Labour Relations Code.
MAKE THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD (WCB) MORE ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE AND COST EFFECTIVE	Skills Development & Labour	ON TRACK: Legislation was passed in 2002 to restore the workers' compensation system to financial sustainability and to restructure the Board's governance. Legislation also passed to create a revised WCB appeal process to provide fair, timely and consistent decisions.

MANAGEMENT OF GOVERNMENT

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
ALL MINISTRIES WILL MEET THEIR BUDGET AND SERVICE PLAN TARGETS	All Ministries	ON TRACK: Annual Budget targets have been achieved for 2002/03 and Service Plan targets are well under way. Refer to ministry Service Plans for further information.
STREAMLINE THE PROVINCE'S FEES AND LICENCES	Competition, Science & Enterprise	ON TRACK: This is an ongoing process. A new fees and licences policy has been approved and implementation of streamlined fees and licences is well underway. Almost 2,900 fees and licenses have been reviewed and 34 per cent are being eliminated/consolidated or devolved to non-governmental authorities.
REFORM THE PROVINCE'S CROWN CORPORATIONS SO THAT THEY FOCUS ON PUBLIC SERVICES, EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY	Crown Agencies Secretariat; All Ministries	ON TRACK: 95 per cent of Crown Corporations have completed their Core Services Review. The key outcome of this review is refocusing the mandates of the Crowns on public service and efficient operations.
STREAMLINE THE CAPITAL APPROVAL PROCESS AND SPONSOR THE USE OF PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS	Finance; Premier's Office	ON TRACK: The Capital Asset Management Framework, which reduced administrative controls, was released in May, 2002. Partnerships B.C. was established with the objective of fostering public private partnerships in the delivery of government services.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

MANAGEMENT OF GOVERNMENT

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
ADOPT GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES (GAAP)	Finance	ON TRACK: Government financial reports will be fully compliant with GAAP beginning with the 2004/05 fiscal year.
INCORPORATING THE RESULTS OF THE FISCAL REVIEW PANEL, DEVELOP A THREE-YEAR FISCAL PLAN WHICH ELIMINATES THE STRUCTURAL DEFICIT AND BALANCES THE BUDGET BY 2004/05	Finance	ON TRACK: The government has introduced successive three-year fiscal plans that include balanced budgets by 2004/05.
INTRODUCE A COST-SAVING SHARED SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE MODEL FOR GOVERNMENT	Management Services; All Ministries	ACHIEVED: Planning for the April 1, 2003 implementation of the shared services provider for the Government of British Columbia and other public sector organizations (Solutions B.C.) was completed. All service offerings were consolidated within the Ministry of Management Services.
REVIEW THE *FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT* (FOIPP) TO INCREASE OPENNESS IN GOVERNMENT AND TO REDUCE COMPLIANCE COSTS	Management Services	ACHIEVED: Two sets of amendments were passed (one in Spring 2002 and the other in Spring 2003) to the FOIPP Act to address this instruction.

MANAGEMENT OF GOVERNMENT

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
INCREASE RECOVERIES OF REVENUES OWED TO GOVERNMENT AND STREAMLINE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE COLLECTIONS	Provincial Revenue	ON TRACK: The incremental revenue target was exceeded during 2002/03. In addition, streamlining efficiencies resulted from consolidation of the accounts receivable function in one ministry and other initiatives. Refer to the Ministry Service Plan for additional information.

A SUPPORTIVE SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

2

There is a fundamental relationship between a vibrant economy and healthy social institutions. Our economy will only be strong if our social fabric supports a healthy population and a skilled workforce. Robust economies provide the funds for the social and environmental services required by the public. Over the past year and in the years to come we will work to facilitate the governmental and institutional reforms needed to build and sustain high-performing health, education and social welfare systems. Our systems of justice must be accessible, efficient, fair and affordable. We will ensure our public institutions provide citizens with services that meet standards of the highest quality, are timely, are delivered by knowledgeable and competent staff, are cost-effective and are responsive to individual choice. British Columbians will be treated with dignity and respect.

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

A. BRITISH COLUMBIANS WILL BE HEALTHY

MEASURE

THE RATE OF POTENTIAL YEARS OF LIFE LOST PER 1,000 POPULATION FROM ALL CAUSES OF PREMATURE DEATH

DESCRIPTION:

Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) focuses on premature deaths - deaths that occur in the younger age groups and that could be prevented or postponed.

IMPORTANCE:

PYLL is an overall indicator of population health, as well as the effectiveness of preventative programs. PYLL considers deaths before age 75 and weights them by age. A person dying at age 25, for example, has lost 50 years of life (75 minus 25 equals 50 PYLL).

TARGET

Decrease the potential years of life lost from the 1995-1999 average of 53.3 per 1,000 population

Note: The 2002/03 Strategic Plan contained an error in the 1995-1999 average; it should have read 53.5 per 1000 population

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
51.1 per 1,000 population	5 year average ending in 2000
49.2 per 1,000 population	5 year average ending in 2001
47.6 per 1,000 population	5 year average ending in 2002

MEASURE

THE PERCENTAGE OF ALL LIVE BIRTHS WEIGHING BELOW 2,500 GRAMS

DESCRIPTION:

This indicator measures the percentage of all live births in British Columbia weighing less than 2,500 grams.

IMPORTANCE:

The low birth weight rate is a well-established indicator of child health. Newborns with a low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams) are more likely to die during the first year of life. They are also more likely to have problems such as birth defects, illnesses and poor health throughout childhood, and learning difficulties. It also tells us about the health of women and their ability to achieve healthy pregnancies. A high rate of babies born with low birth weight may indicate that some women are not receiving optimal prenatal care, education, and support.

TARGET

Decrease the percentage of all live births weighing below 2,500 grams from the 2000 baseline of 5.14%

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
4.97%	2001
5.27%	2002

British Columbians are among the healthiest people in Canada, and early deaths as measured by Potential Years of Life Lost (PYLL) are declining steadily in this province. Significant improvements have been made in postponing most causes of death, with particular success in reducing early deaths from heart disease and unintentional injuries.

Dying prematurely is related to social and economic conditions. There is a correlation between performance indicators in education and employment with the health of our citizens. In general, when people are educated and employed our citizens are healthier and the rates of PYLL decrease. Government's strategic actions to build a robust economy and deliver quality education, health and social service throughout the province will assist British Columbians in maintaining their good health. In addition, the Ministry of Health Planning and Ministry of Health Services have identified the prevention and management of chronic diseases as a priority strategy, along with supporting individuals' efforts to manage their own health. These strategies will help healthy people stay healthy and allow people with chronic conditions to better manage their conditions to prevent the progression of disease, improve their quality of life and avoid premature death.

Low birth weight is also a key indicator of health. While small variations occur year to year (5.1 per cent in 2000, 4.9 per cent in 2001 and 5.27 per cent in 2002), the rate of low birth weight babies in British Columbia has remained largely constant at approximately 5 per cent over the past 15 years. British Columbia leads the country with the lowest percentage of low birth weight babies and ranks among the best in the world when compared against countries belonging to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Government is committed to maintaining the low rate of low birth weight babies in British Columbia. Poverty, low education levels and smoking during pregnancy can impact birth weights. Government's strategies to deliver a consistent level and quality of education, health and social services throughout the province, and to enhance coordinated care networks, early childhood development and health promotion activities, are designed to keep the population healthy and continue to produce excellent health status indicators such as low birth weight rates.

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

B. BRITISH COLUMBIA WILL HAVE EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

MEASURE

THE PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION, AGED 25 TO 54, WHO HAVE COMPLETED A UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

DESCRIPTION:

This indicator measures the percent of British Columbia's population aged 25-54 whose highest educational attainment is a university degree.

IMPORTANCE:

This indicator reflects the proportion of the prime working age population with a university degree, which represents a critical element of the province's human capital, knowledge and skill base necessary for innovation and is a key input for investment attraction, competitiveness, expansion and creation of businesses and provincial economic growth. It reflects both the ability of the province to attract and retain persons with a university degree, which is greatly impacted by net interprovincial and international migration.

TARGET

Increase the percentage of university graduates in the 25-54 cohort from the 2000 baseline of 27.7%

Note: Stats Canada has revised the 2000 baseline number to 20.8%

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
20.1%	2001
21.7%	2002

MEASURE

NUMBER OF SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATES PER 1,000 POPULATION AGED 18 YEARS (AT JULY EACH YEAR)

DESCRIPTION:

This indicator measures the total number of graduates from the public and independent school system divided by the number of 18 years olds (typical age at graduation).

IMPORTANCE:

The secondary school graduation rate is the most appropriate single indicator of the performance of the provincial K-12 school system. The measure is important because in most cases high school completion is a requirement for entry to the labour force and/or post secondary education. The higher the proportion of 18 year olds who have completed secondary school, the better equipped our youth are for employment and for advanced education.

TARGET

Increase the number of secondary school graduates from the 1999/2000 baseline of 736 per 1,000 population

Note: B.C. Stats has revised the 1999/2000 baseline to 751 per 1,000 population

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
761 per 1,000	2000/01
768 per 1,000	2001/02

The quality of our educational institutions has a significant impact on the province's economic competitiveness and the quality of life for British Columbians. Graduating from secondary school and obtaining a university education are enormously important indicators of how students will fare later in life. A university education prepares individuals to hold highly skilled, high value jobs. Access to our university system is essential to ensuring that British Columbians are able to obtain these skills.

Over the past year the percentage of the population with a university education increased. As with the performance indicators measuring the percentage of the labour force with post-secondary certificate and diplomas and the percentage of the workforce comprising persons employed in natural and applied science related occupations, the changes in the percentage of the population aged 25 to 54 who have completed a university education is the result of various factors. The measure is impacted by the number of degrees granted in British Columbia and the number of persons with university degrees gained through inter-provincial and international net migration. The measure has continued to see an upward trend since 1990. In 2002, British Columbia ranked second among all provinces in this measure, below only Ontario. The government will continue to implement programs aimed at improving British Columbian's access to degree level programs throughout the province.

The number of secondary school graduates is also an important indicator of quality of life. Secondary school graduates are almost twice as likely as those who do not finish secondary school to be gainfully employed. The salaries that working graduates enjoy are substantially larger than those enjoyed by non-high school graduates who work. Given the importance of secondary school graduation in determining students' prospects later in life, examining the number of students who graduate from secondary school is an important indicator of school performance. The number of secondary school graduates significantly increased over the 2001/02 fiscal year. The government will be continuing to focus on improving the performance of our education system through performance agreements with school boards, monitoring school board performance and an ongoing assessment and publication of results.

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

C. BRITISH COLUMBIA WILL HAVE A FAIR AND EFFICIENT SYSTEM OF JUSTICE

MEASURE

MEAN NUMBER OF APPEARANCES TO COMPLETE A CRIMINAL CASE IN PROVINCIAL COURT

DESCRIPTION:

This measure describes the average number of times a person accused of a criminal offence must appear in court in order to complete the case.

IMPORTANCE:

As criminal cases grow in complexity and involve intricate legal issues, multiple parties, large volumes of technical evidence and expert witnesses, they often take longer to resolve and use more court resources. They also can require more court appearances before the case is completed. If the average number of court appearances needed to complete all criminal cases can be maintained at baseline or reduced, court resources can be utilized to process more cases through the justice system at a lower cost per case. This contributes to a more efficient use of court resources.

TARGET

Reduce the number of appearances to complete a criminal case in Provincial Court from the 2000/01 baseline of 5.6 appearances

Note: The Ministry of Attorney General has restated the 2000/01 baseline to 5.8 appearances

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
5.7	2001/02
5.8	2002/03

MEASURE

PROPORTION OF SMALL CLAIMS CASES SETTLED THROUGH OUT-OF-COURT MEDIATION IN THE SMALL CLAIMS MEDIATION PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

This measure represents the proportion of all small claims cases that have reached out-of-court settlements after being referred to the small claims mediation program.

IMPORTANCE:

An increasing proportion of small claims cases settled through out-of-court dispute resolution means that more cases that might otherwise have gone to court are being resolved through less costly means. This leaves more resources available to process cases that must be resolved within the courtroom. An increase in this measure could also reflect a growing public willingness to undertake faster and less costly out-of-court alternatives.

TARGET

Increase the percentage of small claims settled through dispute resolution from the 2000/01 baseline of 56%

Note: The Ministry of Attorney General has restated the 2000/01 baseline to 58%

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
57%	2001/02
50%	2002/03

Government's objective is to ensure all people have access to the justice system and are able to participate fully in society. The cost and timeliness of court processes are indicators of the accessibility of justice. The number of appearances in court increased fractionally over 2002/03. This performance was impacted by several high profile and complex criminal cases over the past year (e.g. Air India and Pickton Farm). Today, most large criminal cases require more appearances to consider all of the legal issues and technical evidence involved. However, what these results do not highlight is that the less complex cases are being processed faster and with fewer court appearances allowing more time and resources to be spent where they are required. New criminal case flow management rules, intended to increase procedural efficiencies such as lowering the average number of appearances required to complete cases and reducing the average number of days to completion have now been implemented in all 13 Judicial Districts of the Province. Government is continuing to monitor the effects of these new rules and procedures in consultation with the Provincial Court.

Over 850 mediations were held in 2002/03, of which 50 per cent were settled through the Small Claims Mediation Program. Small claims settlement rates are dependent upon a number of factors, including the complexity of the cases and the economy. During 2002/03, the Small Claims Mediation Program received many more difficult cases than it had in previous years; hence, the lower settlement rate of 50 per cent. In addition, during times of economic downturns, disputants often feel financially and emotionally stressed and are not as inclined to negotiate and compromise as they are when the economy is good. Government will continue to support out-of-court mediation policies and services. Mediation for small claims construction cases is now mandatory. As well, a Notice to Mediate process can now be used by one disputant to compel the other party or parties to mediate. In addition, the government will support and fund high-quality training for mediators, a strategy that also increases the number of qualified mediators available for small claims cases.

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

D. BRITISH COLUMBIANS WILL BE SELF-SUFFICIENT

MEASURE

NUMBER OF PEOPLE UNDER 65 YEARS REQUIRING INCOME ASSISTANCE

DESCRIPTION:

This measure indicates the level of dependency for the age group eligible for provincial income assistance.

IMPORTANCE:

A lower number implies sound policy, a stronger economy and more people working. Individuals and parents who are working have higher incomes, their children are less likely to receive income assistance as adults, and they attain higher levels of training and education. Their children are also more likely to complete high school and be actively involved in the labour market. The proportion of the population collecting income assistance benefits is an important indicator of the economic health of a jurisdiction and may also indicate problems in the incentive structure of the income assistance programs within a jurisdiction.

TARGET

Decrease the number of people under 65 years requiring income assistance from the 2000 baseline of 262,000

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
253,000	2001
181,000	2002

MEASURE

PERCENTAGE OF SENIOR CITIZENS REQUIRING MAXIMUM GUARANTEED INCOME SUPPLEMENT

DESCRIPTION:

This measure indicates the number of seniors with little or no working experience prior to their 65th birthday.

IMPORTANCE:

A lower number of seniors who require the full federal guaranteed income supplement means that more seniors have employment related pension income and that they were able to participate in the labour force prior to the age of 65.

TARGET

Decrease the percentage of senior citizens requiring the maximum Guaranteed Income Supplement from the 1999 baseline of 32%

Note: The baseline data in the 2002/03 Strategic Plan had an error; it was missing a decimal point. The baseline should have read 3.2%

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
3.2%	2000
3.0%	2001
3.0%	2002

Self-sufficiency is an important indicator of community and individual health and well-being. The Province of British Columbia has a responsibility to support individuals and families in achieving their social and economic potential. As part of this responsibility, the government provides income support to those in need and helps people find sustainable employment. Jurisdictions around the world have been exploring ways to reduce dependence on income assistance for those able to find and maintain employment, and at the same time ensure support is provided to those in need. The two measures in this section help government gauge its success in achieving its goal by measuring dependence for the population both under and over 65 years of age.

It is difficult to compare the number of people on income assistance across Canada because eligibility for income assistance is defined provincially and is not consistent across all provinces. The number of people under 65 receiving income assistance in British Columbia is expected to continue to decline. While the results of this measure show considerable improvement as those who can work are now finding work, those who cannot provide for themselves are still receiving assistance. For example, there has been an increase in the number of people with disabilities who are receiving income assistance.

There has also been a significant decrease in the number of people over age 65 requiring income assistance. The number of senior citizens who require maximum Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), a federally administered program, has also been declining, indicating that more seniors have employment-related pension income than in the past. Seniors are retiring with more resources. The trend will continue to decline as people are retiring with more varied resources. The self-sufficiency measures have been refined in the government's 2003/04 Strategic Plan to include the development of a measure of self-sufficiency for First Nations peoples.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

EDUCATION AND FAMILY SERVICES

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
CREATE MORE CHOICE FOR STUDENTS BY ENHANCING ONLINE LEARNING, EXPANDING CREDIT TRANSFERABILITY BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS AND CONSIDERING THE POTENTIAL FOR PURSUING DEGREES FROM A WIDER VARIETY OF INSTITUTIONS, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE	Advanced Education	ON TRACK: Several initiatives are underway including targeted student enrolment growth for online learning; the development of BC Campus as a system-wide, collaborative initiative to provide comprehensive online and distance learning opportunities and learner services; and course transfer agreements between institutions as well as new legislation to expand degree opportunities at both private and public institutions.
RATIONALIZE STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS BY COMBINING THEM INTO A MORE COHERENT, INTEGRATED AND UNDERSTANDABLE PROGRAM AND BY WORKING TOWARDS REDUCING STUDENT LOAN DEFAULT RATES	Advanced Education	ON TRACK: Development of simplified and integrated programs is underway, including improved information via the Internet, increased use of on-line applications and improved loan management practices. Actions to reduce student default rates include working with public and private institutions and students.
REVIEW TUITION POLICY AND DEVELOP AN APPROACH THAT BALANCES THE APPROPRIATE COSTS OF EDUCATION AMONG GOVERNMENT, STUDENTS AND FAMILIES	Advanced Education	ACHIEVED: The Ministry lifted the tuition freeze, allowing institutions greater flexibility in expanding programs and services to suit the needs of their students and their communities.
REVISE THE POST-SECONDARY FUNDING FORMULA SO THAT IT FOCUSES ON RESULTS RATHER THAN SOLELY ON INPUTS	Advanced Education	ACHIEVED: Block funding for colleges, university colleges and institutes was introduced in 2002/03. Institutions are required to report on results, such as the delivery of New Era commitments and their overall student enrolment targets.

EDUCATION AND FAMILY SERVICES

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
REDUCE THE PROPORTION OF CHILDREN IN CARE WHILE ENSURING THEY ARE PROTECTED	Children & Family Development	ON TRACK: During the 2002/03 fiscal year there was a 4.6 per cent reduction in the proportion of children in care.
ESTABLISH A LEGACY FUND FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	Children & Family Development	ACHIEVED: An Early Childhood Development Legacy Fund was established at the Vancouver Foundation. The Ministry invested $5 million to help community groups serve children.
WORK WITH THE COMMUNITY TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A NEW GOVERNANCE AND SERVICE DELIVERY STRUCTURE FOR ADULT COMMUNITY LIVING SERVICES	Children & Family Development	COMMENCED: The Ministry established and worked with a Community Living Transition Steering Committee to seek advice for a new governance and service delivery structure.
WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES TO CREATE A MODEL THAT WILL BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN BY INCREASING A FAMILY'S CAPACITY TO CARE FOR ITS CHILDREN THROUGH FAMILY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS	Children & Family Development	COMMENCED: A Child and Family Development Steering Committee was created in 2002 to seek input to improve services.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

EDUCATION AND FAMILY SERVICES

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDABLE, TRANSPARENT, COMPREHENSIVE, POPULATION-BASED FUNDING FORMULA FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS	Education	ACHIEVED: The *School Amendment Act 2002* established new population based funding and 3-year funding envelopes.
INCREASE FLEXIBILITY AND CHOICE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLING	Education	ACHIEVED: The *Public Flexibility and Choice Act, 2002* enables flexibility in class size and school calendars and controls the size of classes in kindergarten through grade 3. In addition, the *School Amendment Act 2002* enables school districts to undertake entrepreneurial activities, removes the limits on program enrolment and opens up district boundaries.
SHIFT THE FOCUS OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND TO CLEAR, MEASURABLE PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES	Education	ACHIEVED: School Planning Councils and District Parent Advisory Councils were established. The accountability framework institutes clear, measurable outcomes including school plans, district reviews, accountability contracts, enhancement agreements, public reporting of results, compliance audits and the appointment of a Special Advisor.
IMPLEMENT POLICIES TO ENSURE PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT	Competition, Science & Enterprise; All Ministries	ON TRACK: In addition to the new energy policy and major reforms in forestry, the government has worked to provide greater certainty for investors by fast-tracking interim measures and treaty talks with First Nations. Increasing access to Crown land, water and resources and reducing backlogs are encouraging increased private sector activity. The Energy Plan focuses on the private sector for new electricity generation and for major investment in oil and gas.

JUSTICE AND SAFETY

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
DEVELOP ACCOUNTABILITY CONTRACTS WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS, INCLUDING THE REPORTING OF OUTCOMES, AND GIVE SCHOOL BOARDS INCREASED FLEXIBILITY	Education	ACHIEVED: All school districts have submitted annual accountability contracts.
EXPAND THE EARLY USE OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESSES FOR CIVIL DISPUTES	Attorney General	ACHIEVED: The Child Mediation Protection Program was implemented province-wide. A roster of qualified mediators on contract to the Ministry was expanded to 180 from 120.
UNDERTAKE A CONSULTATION PROCESS TO REVIEW CIVIL LIABILITY ISSUES	Attorney General	ON TRACK: This is a multi-year review process. Stakeholder consultations were completed and summarized.
INCREASE THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY TO STREAMLINE PROCESSES AND FACILITATE ACCESS TO JUSTICE	Attorney General	ON TRACK: All initiatives are on track or achieved. An example of a completed project is the increase in the number of video conferencing units in use in courtrooms and correctional facilities to 65 from 62. Refer to the Ministry Service Plan for additional examples.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

JUSTICE AND SAFETY

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
REVIEW ADJUDICATIVE AGENCIES AND IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS	Attorney General	ACHIEVED: Phase I of the Administrative Justice Project is completed. The agencies were reviewed and an Administrative Justice Office was established to direct the implementation of reforms.
REVISE PROVINCIAL SAFETY STANDARD REGULATIONS TO SELF-REGULATION, COMPLIANCE AND OUTCOME-BASED CODES AND STANDARDS	Community, Aboriginal & Women's Services	ON TRACK: The government introduced the *Safety Standards Act and Safety Authority Act* to, respectively, modernize and streamline safety administration in British Columbia and allow for safety inspection activities to be transferred to an independent agency. Consultationon the objective-based Building, Fire and Plumbing Codes is underway.
CONSOLIDATE CONSUMER PROTECTION REGULATIONS	Public Safety & Solicitor General	ON TRACK: Consultation with industry and the public was undertaken in January 2003. Seven consumer statutes are being consolidated into one statute to simplify, streamline and clarify the legal framework, and to allow for deregulation. Legislation and regulations are presently being drafted.
ENSURE THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE AND SAFE INDUSTRY PRACTICES	Skills Development & Labour	ON TRACK: The occupational safety and health recommendations of the Alan Winter report on Workers' Compensation Board legislation and policy are being examined with the intent to proceed with future legislative amendments.

JUSTICE AND SAFETY

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
DEVELOP FAIR AND BALANCED EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS THAT ALLOW MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS	Skills Development & Labour	ON TRACK: The *Employment Standards Amendment Act* and regulations were passed in 2002 to ensure that employees and employers are treated fairly and equitably. Self-help kits were introduced in July 2002 as the change from an investigation model to a more efficient and effective mediation model was achieved.

HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
CREATE A HEALTH SYSTEM THAT IS BASED ON THREE GOALS: HIGH QUALITY PATIENT-CENTRED CARE; IMPROVED HEALTH AND WELLNESS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIANS; AND, SUSTAINABLE, AFFORDABLE PUBLIC HEALTH	Health Planning; Health Services	ON TRACK: The health ministries' service plans, the health authority redesign plans and the performance agreements between the Ministry of Health Services and each health authority articulate strategies to meet the government's health system goals.
SHIFT THE SYSTEM FROM FRAGMENTED MANAGEMENT, LACK OF CLEAR ACCOUNTABILITY AND LITTLE FOCUS ON PATIENT OUTCOMES TO A PLANNED, WELL-MANAGED SYSTEM THAT RESPONDS TO PATIENT NEEDS AND IS ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PUBLIC FOR RESULTS	Health Planning; Health Services	ON TRACK: Six new health authorities have been established, new boards appointed, and new accountability contracts and measures established. The health authorities have been provided with three-year rolling funding commitments and have established three-year health service plans to renew and reform patient services in each region.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
CONTINUE TO PRESSURE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO RESTORE HEALTH FUNDING	Health Planning; Health Services; Intergovernmental Relations; Finance	ON TRACK: The First Ministers' Accord on Health was completed in February 2003. The Accord has resulted in an increase in federal funding for health services.
DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT MULTI-YEAR PLANS FOR HUMAN RESOURCES, HEALTH CARE FACILITIES AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT	Health Planning; Health Services; Advanced Education	ON TRACK: Multi-year plans are under development for health human resources, health care facilities and medical equipment. Health human resource planning has resulted in medical school spaces being increased from 128 to 224 by 2005, and 1,813 new training spaces having been added for nurses and other health professionals over the past three years. Facility and equipment planning has resulted in new operating rooms in Surrey, Kelowna and Vernon, new CT Scanner and MRI machines in Kelowna, Victoria and Nanaimo, and 25 new kidney dialysis centres across the province.
INSTITUTE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS SO HEALTH AUTHORITIES CAN BE MORE PATIENT-CENTRED, EFFECTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE	Health Services	ACHIEVED: Performance agreements have been developed with each health authority that define expectations and measures for three fiscal years.
PLAN AND PROCEED WITH PATIENT CARE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AREAS OF PREVENTION, CHRONIC CARE, PRIMARY CARE, MENTAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CARE	Health Services	ON TRACK: Provincial initiatives are underway in prevention, chronic care, primary care, mental health and community care.

HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
PHASE IN A POPULATION NEEDS-BASED FUNDING FORMULA TO ACHIEVE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF HEALTH DOLLARS	Health Services	ACHIEVED: A population needs-based funding formula for determining funding allocations to health authorities was implemented.
ESTABLISH A LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF HEALTH SYSTEM LEADERS TO HELP SET THE DIRECTION AND IMPLEMENT CHANGES TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA	Health Services	ACHIEVED: The Leadership Council has been established. The Council meets regularly and consists of the CEO's of the six health authorities and the Deputy Ministers of the health ministries.
ESTABLISH THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORITY TO REDUCE VARIABILITY IN ACCESS TO SPECIALIZED SERVICES ACROSS PATIENT GROUPS AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE	Health Services	ACHIEVED: The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) has been established to manage and coordinate provincially delivered health services.
ESTABLISH A NEW AND COST-EFFECTIVE STRATEGY TO PROVIDE 5,000 NEW INTERMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM CARE BEDS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS	Health Services	ON TRACK: Independent Living BC was established in April 2002 to develop 3,500 supportive living units.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
IMPLEMENT A PLANNING FRAMEWORK FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND INTERMEDIATE, LONG-TERM AND HOME CARE	Health Services	ACHIEVED: Performance agreements are in place that hold health authorities accountable for the delivery of patient care, patient outcomes and the allocation of funds. These agreements include requirements for mental health and home and community care services over the next three years.
DEVELOP AN INFORMATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, FOCUSING ON HEALTH INFORMATION FOR THE GENERAL POPULATION AND ON DATA STANDARDS FOR REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES	Health Services	ACHIEVED: A five-year Strategic Plan for Health Information Management in British Columbia and a Framework for an Electronic Health Record for British Columbia have been developed.
WITHIN THE CURRENT BUDGET ALLOCATION ENSURE EARLY ACTION ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	Health Services	ACHIEVED: Government is implementing a $263 million commitment to revitalize services and facilities for people with mental health problems.
IMPLEMENT NEW INCOME ASSISTANCE PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES THAT SUPPORT CLIENTS' EFFORTS TO FIND SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT AND ASSIST INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN NEED	Human Resources	ACHIEVED: The Ministry introduced the *B.C. Employment and Assistance Act* and the *B.C. Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act* to focus on employment and self-sufficiency and to support those in need.

HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
REDESIGN EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS TO MOVE EMPLOYABLE CLIENTS QUICKLY INTO THE LABOUR MARKET THROUGH JOB SEARCH, JOB PLACEMENT AND LABOUR MARKET SPECIFIC SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMS	Human Resources	ACHIEVED: Employment plans have been introduced to assist income assistance clients find sustainable employment and achieve independence. Employment programs including job placement and specific training for employment have been developed and implemented across the province.
DEVELOP PERFORMANCE-BASED MANAGEMENT POLICIES THAT STREAMLINE SERVICE DELIVERY, INCREASE ACCOUNTABILITY WITHIN THE MINISTRY, STRENGTHEN CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH THIRD PARTIES AND PROVIDE A MORE EFFICIENT APPEAL SYSTEM	Human Resources	ACHIEVED: The Employment and Assistance Appeal Tribunal, a new independent, single, streamlined appeal system, has been implemented across the province. Management policies that support performance and outcome-based contracting have been developed and implemented.

SAFE, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES & A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

3

Sustained economic competitiveness depends upon British Columbians maximizing the benefits from our natural resources, maintaining the quality of our environment and enhancing the health of our communities. Our province is known for its spectacular scenery and natural environment. At the same time, our land base and natural resources underpin the economy and our local communities and, through resource revenues, contribute to our supportive social fabric. During 2002/03 government put policies and processes in place intended to maximize the value of these public assets by balancing protection of the physical environment with sustainable economic activity in our natural resource sector.

The health of our communities is equally important to our economic prosperity, our individual well-being and the sustainability of our environment. Government has worked to promote communities in which diversity is valued and British Columbians have a sense of personal and public safety. In addition, we have provided local governments with increased ability to make decisions on behalf of their citizens without requiring provincial government approval.

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

A. BRITISH COLUMBIA WILL HAVE SAFE COMMUNITIES

MEASURE

THE NUMBER OF PERSONAL AND PROPERTY CRIMES KNOWN TO POLICE PER 100,000 POPULATION

DESCRIPTION:

The personal (violent) and property crime rate is based on the number of reported crimes per 100,000 people. Personal (violent) crime includes all degrees of murder, assault, sexual assault, robbery and abduction. Property crime includes incidents known to police involving unlawful acts, with the intent of gaining property, but which do not involve the threat or use of violence.

IMPORTANCE:

The personal (violent) and property crime rate is used as a standard indicator of community safety and security. It can also indicate social and economic problems. Rising crime rates can reflect a lack of employment opportunities, inadequate education or social dysfunction.

TARGET

Decrease the number of personal and property crimes from the 2000 baseline of 7,629 per 100,000 population

Note: Statistics Canada has revised the 2000 baseline to 7,610 per 100,000 population

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
7,669 per 100,000	2001
7,716 per 100,000	2002

MEASURE

THE NUMBER OF REPORTED INCIDENTS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PER 1,000 POPULATION

DESCRIPTION:

For this measure, domestic violence is defined as spousal assault. The number of spousal assaults reported by police represents the number of Criminal Code incidents that contain supplementary information indicating that an assault against a spouse has occurred. Spouse is defined as a marital partner, a common-law partner, a same-sex partner, or a partner in a dating or intimate relationship.

IMPORTANCE:

Spousal assault, like other categories of violent crime, can indicate social and economic problems and the degree to which communities are safe and secure. The target suggests that fewer reported incidents would indicate greater community and family safety. However, increased reporting of domestic violence can also increase safety by bringing more of these offences before the justice system.

TARGET

Decrease the incidents of domestic violence from the 1999 baseline of 2.44 per 1,000 population

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
2.49 per 1,000	2000
2.43 per 1,000	2001
2.21 per 1,000	2002

As people know from their own experiences, the community environment is an important influence on an individual's health and welfare. It is very important, therefore, that our communities are safe. Two indicators of community safety are assessing the levels of crime and domestic violence. Personal, property and domestic crime rates indicate trends in crime, and provide an indirect measure of police workload and the safety of individuals in their communities. Crime rates are influenced by many factors including changes in public attitudes on reporting crime; the impact of new anti-crime initiatives such as new legislation; policies or enforcement practices; or demographic changes such as the aging of a population.

The number of reported personal and property crimes increased between 2000 and 2002. However, when the rates for personal and property crimes are viewed separately, the apparent increase in the crime rate is put into context. Statistics Canada reports that crimes against the person actually decreased in British Columbia from 1,251 per 100,000 in 2,000 to 1,217 per 100,000 in 2001. Over the same time period, property crime rose from 6,359 per 100,000 to 6,451 per 100,000 in 2001. This increase is mainly due to an increase in motor vehicle thefts. In 2002, the personal crime rate decreased again to 1,203 per 100,000 and the property crime rate rose slightly to 6,513 per 100,000. Putting these figures into a larger context, British Columbia's overall crime rate has significantly decreased since the early 1990's, and has begun to level off over the last two years.

An analysis of domestic violence rates is also critical to assessing the safety of our communities. Domestic violence can take place in or outside the home and takes many forms including physical, sexual, emotional or financial abuse. For the past ten years, domestic violence rates have fluctuated only slightly from year to year, making it very difficult to suggest any trend in reported incidents. In 1999 the trend was 2.44 assaults per 1,000 population, in 2000 the rate was 2.49 per 1,000 population and in 2001 the rate was 2.43 per 1,000 population, and in 2002 the rate was 2.21 per population with the result that we have achieved our target for this measure.

Crime is a complex problem. Effective long-term planning must be directed towards solving broader issues surrounding crime if it is to be successfully reduced. The government is pursuing a variety of initiatives aimed at building safer, more supportive communities through targeted, coordinated and consultative initiatives that reduce and prevent crime. Specific initiatives include integration of specialized police services, establishment of an Auto Theft Task Force and the Integrated Gambling Enforcement Unit. The government's objective is to build safer communities by combining the resources of the community, all levels of government, the police and the media.

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

B. LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE INCREASED AUTONOMY

MEASURE

THE CAPACITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE DECISIONS AND TO FUND THE SERVICES WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTIONS

DESCRIPTION:

British Columbians, whether in urban or rural settings, depend on their local governments to provide a range of needed public services while being efficient, responsive and accountable. The government is committed to giving local governments greater autonomy and better planning tools to reduce pressure on property taxes.

IMPORTANCE:

Local government autonomy is a key ingredient since citizen interests and prevailing economic, social and environmental conditions vary so widely across the province. Autonomy is necessary for local governments to make the best decisions possible for citizens.

TARGET

To be determined pending consultation with Community Charter Council

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
Community Charter was enacted in March 2003	2002/03

The provincial government recognizes that, as the level of government closest to citizens, municipalities are in the best position to make local decisions. The Community Charter has now been enacted. In Canada, the Community Charter will be the most empowering local government statute. It replaces the tradition of legislation that tells a municipality what it can or cannot do with enabling legislation that allows it to choose what services citizens want and are willing to pay for. The Community Charter enables municipalities to make decisions of concern to their communities without the need for provincial government approval. Municipal councils will report to their citizens instead of the provincial government. The introduction and subsequent proclamation of this legislation follows 18 months of consultation with individuals; consumer, citizen and community groups; business and industry; professional associations; local governments and provincial ministries. The final legislation reflects a balance of the interests of these groups. The provincial government will continue to have authority over the economy, environment, wildlife and public health to protect the broad interests of provincial taxpayers.

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

C. BRITISH COLUMBIA WILL HAVE A HEALTHY PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

MEASURE

THE AMOUNT OF FINE PARTICULATES IN THE AIR UNDER 10 MICRONS PER CUBIC METRE OF AIR (PM_{10})

DESCRIPTION:

Air quality is measured by the amount of fine particulate matter in the air. Fine particulates include dust, dirt, liquid droplets and smoke.

IMPORTANCE:

Many air quality monitors have been measuring fine particulate under 10 microns, but recent findings have shown that 2.5 microns or less pose the greatest health risk. There is a national initiative underway to switch to monitoring $PM_{2.5}$. As such, the best available data for 1992 through 2000 is PM_{10}, while the best data through 2001 and subsequent years is $PM_{2.5}$.

TARGET

Maintain or improve Vancouver's 2000 baseline air quality rating of 2nd amongst metropolitan areas in Canada (measuring PM_{10})

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
Vancouver ranked 3rd based on the new standard measurement using $PM_{2.5}$.	2001

MEASURE

THE PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION SERVED BY SECONDARY OR BETTER WASTEWATER FACILITIES

DESCRIPTION:

This indicator measures the percentage of the population served by sewers that have wastewater treatment facilities. Wastewater is treated in four steps: preliminary and primary treatments filter solid material, secondary treatment removes greater suspended material, and tertiary treatment aims to remove substance such as contaminants.

IMPORTANCE:

The purpose of wastewater treatment is to protect human health and to reduce stress on the receiving environment.

TARGET

Improve upon the 1999 baseline of 63% of British Columbia's population served by secondary or better wastewater facilities

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
65%	2000
67%	2001
69%	2002

British Columbians value the natural environment, and preserving the quality of that environment is key to both the quality of life for individuals and the economic competitiveness of the province. Yet, as populations and economic activity increase, the quality of the environment can be threatened if these changes are not balanced with considerations of their long-term effect on the physical environment. Government is therefore committed to measures that support economic growth while maintaining environmental integrity.

Air quality is an important indicator of environmental health, and is measured by the amount of fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) in the air. Fine particulates can settle in the lungs and make breathing difficult for individuals, especially those with cardiovascular problems or the elderly. Many air quality monitors have been measuring fine particulates under 10 microns (PM_{10}) but recent findings have shown that particulates 2.5 or less ($PM_{2.5}$) pose the greatest health risk. Canada has only recently begun to monitor $PM_{2.5}$. As such, the best available data prior to 2000 is PM_{10}, subsequent data is available using a measurement of $PM_{2.5}$. Vancouver ranked third behind St. John's, Newfoundland and Sydney, Nova Scotia in the concentration of $PM_{2.5}$ particulates in the air in 2001. The government will continue to monitor and report on the quality of British Columbia's air.

Another important goal to protect the physical environment is the provision of adequate wastewater treatment throughout the province. The Canada-British Columbia Infrastructure program has been the primary initiative in support of this goal. That initiative improves urban and rural local government infrastructure, and improves quality of life through investments that enhance the quality of the environment. Over the 2002/03 fiscal year, additional infrastructure investments in wastewater facilities resulted in achievement of our target. The government will be continuing its efforts to ensure British Columbia retains a healthy natural environment for the long-term benefit of current and future residents of the province.

OBJECTIVES & KEY MEASURES

D. BRITISH COLUMBIA WILL HAVE SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCES

MEASURE

THE PRODUCTION OF ENERGY FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES

DESCRIPTION:

This indicator measures the amount of renewable energy development and production in the province since 1999, and provides information on the growth of British Columbia's renewable energy sector.

IMPORTANCE:

British Columbia's use of renewable energy contributes to reductions in provincial Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, enhances provincial energy diversity and security, develops new technologies, enhances growth in the renewable energy sector and contributes to regional and provincial economic opportunities.

TARGET

Increase in renewable energy production from the 1999 baseline of 10%

LATEST RESULTS	YEAR
11%	2002

MEASURE

THE PERCENTAGE OF KNOWN NATIVE SPECIES THAT ARE THREATENED OR ENDANGERED IN THE PROVINCE

DESCRIPTION:

The percentage of known native species (birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, freshwater fish, ferns and orchids) that are considered "threatened" or "endangered" in the province according to the national report "Wild Species 2000: The General Status of Species in Canada." Future editions of this report will be produced every five years.

IMPORTANCE:

The percentage of species that are considered "threatened" or "endangered" reflects the degree to which social and economic activities are affecting the sustainability of native species and the habitats upon which these species rely. A stable or declining percentage of "threatened" or "endangered" species is desirable not only as a natural legacy for future generations but also because species and habitat are a foundation for many economic activities (e.g. nature-based tourism) and their conservation is a growing expectation of the marketplace (e.g. forest industry product certification).

TARGET

Improve on the province's 2000 baseline of 14.2 per cent for species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, freshwater fish, ferns and orchids at risk

LATEST RESULTS

No new data until 2005

British Columbia's natural resources and environment enable diverse and productive uses of our land base. The government believes it is essential that the quality of our soil, water and air resources is sustained. Safe and efficient use of the province's energy resources through our policies and programs is a key factor in ensuring that we develop our energy resources in a sustainable manner. A key objective of British Columbia's energy policy is to achieve environmental and economic excellence. Consistent with the energy policy, increasing the production of energy from renewable resources is a significant public policy goal. British Columbia reached and improved upon its target to increase renewable energy production. In fact, all of the province's growing demand for energy was met through renewable sources. B.C. Hydro has also put out a request for proposals for electricity from renewable sources, so it is expected that this target will be exceeded over the next number of years.

Another significant indicator of environmental sustainability is the number of species at risk in a given region. Ensuring species do not become extinct means knowing the status of species across the province - which species are secure for now, which to keep an eye on, and which need to be formally assessed and perhaps protected. The *Wild Species in Canada* report provides an overview of all provincial, territorial and federal monitoring efforts into a single platform. The result of 14.2 per cent was derived from the national report - *Wild Species 2000: The General Status of Species in Canada*. The next edition is scheduled for 2005 and we will report out on our progress at that time. This report will be more comprehensive (it will include more classes of species) than the 2000 edition.

The government is working to ensure it is protecting species at risk through a variety of initiatives, including the identification of Wildlife Habitat Areas under the new *Forest and Range Practices Act*, coordination of recovery activities with the federal government's requirements under the *Species at Risk Act*, consideration of species at risk impacts through the province's environmental assessment process and the support of recovery teams that are developing recovery plans for species at risk throughout the province. While this is a very important measure for British Columbia, it must be recognized that due to it's dynamic nature it can only effectively be measured over time. There continues to be a concerted effort across a number of ministries to protect species at risk.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

LAND USE

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
STREAMLINE THE AQUACULTURE SYSTEM IN BRITISH COLUMBIA	Agriculture, Food & Fisheries	ACHIEVED: Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, in conjunction with Sustainable Resource Management, has established a one-window approach for aquaculture approvals through Land and Water B.C. Inc., simplifying the process for proponents.
DEVELOP A MARKET-BASED TIMBER PRICING REGIME AND TENURE REFORM PACKAGE WHICH WILL INCLUDE FAIR VALUE FOR THE PROVINCE'S TIMBER RESOURCE	Forests	ON TARGET: The government has developed the legislative framework to implement market-based timber pricing and associated tenure reforms.
ESTABLISH A WORKING FOREST LAND BASE	Sustainable Resource Management	ON TRACK: Policy development proceeded with the release of a discussion paper on the Working Forest. The public and stakeholder consultation period concluded April 30/03. Confirmation of government's Working Forest policy will follow.
COMPLETE LAND USE PLANS FOR THE REMAINING PRIORITY AREAS OF THE PROVINCE	Sustainable Resource Management	ON TRACK: All priority areas (The North Coast, Central Coast, Morice, Sea to Sky, The Queen Charlotte Islands and Lillooet Land Use Management Plans) are underway and scheduled for completion in 2004. For more specific information on these plans, refer to the Ministry Service Plan and website.

LAND USE

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
REFORM THE MANAGEMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE COMMISSION TO BETTER REFLECT LOCAL INPUT	Sustainable Resource Management	ACHIEVED: Government changed the structure of the Commission with improved regional representation to better reflect local knowledge and to improve opportunities for local input into decision-making.
CREATE STREAMLINED, USER-FRIENDLY APPROVAL PROCESSES FOR ACCESS TO CROWN LAND AND WATER RESOURCES THAT GENERATE A FAIR RETURN TO THE PROVINCE	Sustainable Resource Management	ACHIEVED: Sustainable Resource Management, through Land and Water B.C., has redesigned and integrated their application process to achieve a 50 per cent reduction in processing time and a more streamlined process and standardized business rules across all regions to provide clarity and ease for clients.
IMPLEMENT A LIVING RIVERS STRATEGY	Water, Land & Air Protection; Sustainable Resource Management; Agriculture, Food & Fisheries	ON TRACK: The Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection has established a Living Rivers branch, initiated a State of Rivers Report for B.C. and set up a $2 million Living Rivers Trust Fund to support river conservation and restoration activities.
RATIONALIZE THE NUMEROUS LAND AND RESOURCE INVENTORY INFORMATION SYSTEMS TO CREATE A CENTRAL SOURCE OF INTEGRATED INFORMATION THAT CAN BE ACCESSED BY USERS BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE GOVERNMENT	Sustainable Resource Management; Forests; Energy & Mines; Water, Land & Air Protection; Agriculture, Food & Fisheries	ON TRACK: Land Information B.C. has been initiated to provide fast, easy access to integrated land and resource information. The number of corporate systems has been reduced by 5 per cent and fifteen provincial data sets have been loaded into the Land and Resource Data Warehouse. For more specific examples, refer to Ministry Service Plans.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & SAFETY

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
STRENGTHEN THE GOVERNMENT'S CAPACITY TO DEAL WITH FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY (INCLUDING ANIMAL, FISH AND PLANT HEALTH)	Agriculture, Food & Fisheries	ON TRACK: Government strengthened cooperation with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency by establishing two operational agreements. The Ministry negotiated federal matching funds to develop industry-led on-farm safety programs and established an agreement with the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control regarding monitoring for West Nile Virus and research into ant microbial resistance. Rationalization of food safety regulation will continue with Ministry of Health.
DEVELOP A MADE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA PLAN TO ADDRESS ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH GREENHOUSE GASES	Water, Land & Air Protection; Energy & Mines; Sustainable Resource Management	ON TRACK: The initiative is on track to develop a plan for British Columbia.
EXAMINE OPPORTUNITIES TO MODERNIZE THE CURRENT FOREST REGULATORY REGIME TO FOCUS ON OUTCOME BASED REGULATING	Forests	ACHIEVED: The Ministry has developed the *Forest and Range Practices Act* which will place greater emphasis on defining acceptable results on the ground and greater reliance on professional and company accountability.
IMPLEMENT A STREAMLINED, SCIENCE-BASED, RESULTS-ORIENTED REGULATORY FRAMEWORK TO PROTECT HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT	Sustainable Resource Management; Forests; Energy & Mines; Water, Land & Air Protection; Agriculture, Food & Fisheries	ON TRACK: This is a continuing cross-ministry government priority. Significant progress has been made; refer to Ministry Service Plans for specific examples.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
NEGOTIATE WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT A NEW NATIONAL FARM INSURANCE PROGRAM AND GREATER CONTROL OVER FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND REVENUES	Agriculture, Food & Fisheries; Intergovernmental Relations	ON TRACK: The national Agriculture Policy Framework has been negotiated. Government is pursuing a new relationship with the federal government over fisheries.
DEVELOP AN ENERGY POLICY THAT BALANCES ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES, CONSERVATION CONSIDERATIONS AND A SAFE, SECURE ENERGY SUPPLY FOR BRITISH COLUMBIANS	Energy & Mines	ACHIEVED: Government's energy plan was approved and released November 2002. Implementation is underway.
DETERMINE THE FUTURE DIRECTION FOR OFFSHORE OIL	Energy & Mines; Water Land and Air Protection	ON TRACK: Both a review panel and Caucus Committee Task Force were appointed to identify the future direction for offshore oil and gas. These entities determined that there was no inherent or fundamental inadequacy of science or technology to justify retention of the B. C. moratorium. An Offshore Oil and Gas Team was established in January 2003. The Offshore Oil and Gas Team has developed a plan to move forward. Discussions with the federal government, First Nations, coastal communities and industry have been initiated.
DEVELOP A PLAN TO MAKE THE SMALL BUSINESS FOREST ENTERPRISE PROGRAM MORE EFFECTIVE AND PUT IT ON A COMMERCIAL FOOTING.	Forests	ACHIEVED: The Ministry has created a new organization called B.C. Timber Sales to replace the Small Business Forest Enterprise Program. B.C. Timber Sales has a refocused mandate to increase effectiveness and become more commercial. The organization will operate on a net revenue basis.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
ESTABLISH WORKABLE RELATIONSHIPS WITH FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES	All Ministries	ON TRACK: The First Citizens' Forum examined strengthening the relationship between government and aboriginal communities. A Joint Aboriginal Advisory Committee was established to put in place government programs that better reflect the needs of aboriginal citizens.
DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS	All Ministries	ON TRACK: Government is supporting various capacity building initiatives to promote governance, financial management and administrative capacity building in the non-profit sector. Examples include a new non-government British Columbia Heritage Legacy Fund with a $5 million Provincial endowment to provide a source of future funding for community heritage projects. Refer to ministry service plans for more specific examples and further information.
ADDRESS CAUSES OF CRIME THROUGH TARGETED, COORDINATED AND CONSULTATIVE INITIATIVES.	Attorney General	ON TRACK: A number of initiatives were achieved including funding the Community Mobilization Program and the Safe Streets Safe Schools Fund; establishing an Inter-Ministry Committee on Youth Violence and Crime; and holding youth intelligence sharing workshops.
CONDUCT A REFERENDUM ON PRINCIPLES FOR TREATY NEGOTIATIONS	Attorney General	ACHIEVED: A referendum establishing principles to be used in Treaty negotiations was held.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMMUNITY CHARTER	Community, Aboriginal & Women's Services	ACHIEVED: The *Community Charter Act* was enacted in March 2003.
RATIONALIZE REGULATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION/HOUSING INDUSTRY AND DEVELOP A PLAN TO ADDRESS THE LEAKY CONDOMINIUM SITUATION	Community, Aboriginal & Women's Services	ON TRACK: Options for establishing a modern, efficient building regulatory system are being developed. The provincial housing strategy is being developed. The Core Services Review confirmed that the current approach to leaky condos (licensing builders, mandatory warranty and financial assistance for leaky condo owners) is the appropriate response.
IMPLEMENT ACTIVE SCHOOLS, ACTIVE COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZED SPORT STRATEGIES	Community, Aboriginal & Women's Services; Education	ON TRACK: *Moving Ahead – From Policy to Action Recommendations for a Sustainable Future for Sport and Physical Activity in British Columbia*, a stakeholder/partner report outlining recommendations for action is in final draft stage. Initiatives that began in 2002/03 include Action Schools B.C. and the Aboriginal Youth FIRST rural program that completed its first year with 200 participants.
FOCUS SOCIAL HOUSING POLICY AND SERVICES ON THE NEEDS OF CLIENTS, OFFERING GREATER FLEXIBILITY AND CHOICE	Community, Aboriginal & Women's Services; Children & Family Development; Human Resources; Health Planning	ON TRACK: Implemented Independent Living B.C., a housing-health partnership to meet the needs of vulnerable British Columbians.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
INVOLVE THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN FINANCING HIGHWAY PROJECTS SO THAT NEW INFRASTRUCTURE CAN BE DELIVERED WITHOUT THE GOVERNMENT HAVING TO BEAR THE FULL COST	Transportation	ON TRACK: The *Transportation Investment Act* was passed in October 2002, establishing the legal framework for public-private partnerships; the provincial tolling policy was developed and approved in April 2003; and a new Transportation Investment Plan, to be funded from a mix of public and private sector sources, was announced in Budget 2003. Work continues on developing specific public-private projects.
GIVE COMMUNITIES MORE SAY IN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PRIORITIES BY ESTABLISHING REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEES THAT WILL DETERMINE PRIORITIES	Transportation	ACHIEVED: Eight regional transportation committees have been established.
DEVELOP A NEW PLAIN LANGUAGE *RESIDENTIAL TENANCY ACT*	Public Safety & Solicitor General	ACHIEVED: Two different acts received royal assent: the *Residential Tenancy Act and the Manufactured Home Park Act.* Proclamation of these two acts is expected after further refinements and new regulations are written pursuant to the new legislation.
AGGRESSIVELY SUPPORT THE 2010 OLYMPIC BID	Community, Aboriginal & Women's Services; Intergovernmental Relations; Transportation; Competition, Science & Enterprise; Water, Land & Air Protection; Sustainable Resource Management	ON TRACK: Vancouver has been accepted by the International Olympic Committee as a candidate bid city. Two new websites have been launched: www.Celebration2010.com and www.Education2010.ca. In addition, the Municipal Legacies Fund was established. An announcement on the winning city will occur on July 2, 2003.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

STRATEGY	ACCOUNTABILITY	PROGRESS
HOLD A PROVINCIAL CONGRESS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS ACROSS ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT	Intergovernmental Relations	ACHIEVED: Two provincial Congresses have been held and the Premier also hosted a series of Dialogues focussed on specific public policy issues including Members of the Legislative Assembly: Dialogue on Education (June 2002), Dialogue on Transportation (September 2002) and a meeting of Cabinet and the First Nations Summit (September 2002).

We welcome your views, comments and ideas on the contents of this Annual Report

Please send your comments:

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- NOTES -

- NOTES -

BRITISH
COLUMBIA